



March 19, 2007

## **H.R. 1006 – Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Amendments of 2007**

### **Floor Situation**

H.R. 1006 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Don Young (R-AK) on February 13, 2007, and has not been considered by any committee in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

H.R. 1006 is expected to be considered on the floor on March 19, 2007.

### **Summary**

H.R. 1006 would:

- Reauthorize the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Program and increases the amount authorized from \$5 million a year to \$7 million a year. The Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Program provides grants for the recovery or treatment of marine mammals.

The increased authorization level in H.R. 1006 is for the purpose of expanding the program to include agreements with facilities to assist in entanglements, removing fishing line, gear, rope, net or other material from marine mammals while at sea.

- Change the administrative formula to make excess funds available for grants to the program.
- Authorize Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Event Fund at existing levels from FY 2007 through FY 2010. The current level authorized for this program is \$500,000 a year. The purpose of this program is to determine when an unusual marine mammal mortality event is occurring and then to direct a response.

### **Background**

The text of H.R. 1006 was included as part of a larger bill in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress (H.R. 2130, the Marine Mammal Protection Act), which was approved unanimously by the House Resources Committee on May 18, 2005 (House Report 109-180).

The language from H.R. 1006 was also included as part of the Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2006 in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, which passed the House by voice vote on July 17, 2006.

**CBO Estimate**

H.R. 1006 has not been scored by CBO.

**Staff Contact**

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